Service Area Strategic Plan

Department of Social Services (765)

Service Area 8 of 33
Child Support Supplement (765 452 11)

Description

This service area funds the Child Support Supplement payments made to eligible individuals participating in one of the Commonwealth's safety net programs, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program which provides cash assistance to extremely low and no income families. The 2003 session of the Virginia General Assembly directed the Department of Social Services to pay to TANF households a payment equal to the child support collected each month, less the first $50. These payments, known as Child Support Supplements, are paid from TANF funds. The child support supplement is distributed directly to participants via check or direct deposit.

Background Information

Mission Alignment and Authority

- *Describe how this service supports the agency mission*

  The Child Support Supplement Payments assist low-income families in meeting their basic human needs, a cornerstone of the social services system's mission to help individuals and families triumph over poverty and enable them to shape stronger futures for themselves and their families.

- *Describe the Statutory Authority of this Service*

  The 2002 Acts of Assembly mandated the Department of Social Services to provide to recipients of TANF cash assistance a monthly TANF supplement in an amount up to the current child support collected by the Division of Child Support Enforcement for each TANF recipient, less any disregard passed through to such recipient pursuant to any other provision of law.

Customers

Agency Customer Group	Customer	Customers served annually	Potential annual customers
Individuals, Children and Families (served unknown; potential unlimited)	Low-income individuals and families	6,530	7,063

Anticipated Changes To Agency Customer Base
The modest rise in the TANF cash assistance program caseload and the continued success of the Division of Child Support Enforcement in collecting child support from non-custodial parents continue to drive increases in the number of individuals receiving the child support supplement.

Partners

Partner	Description
Local Departments of Social Services	
State Agencies	

Products and Services

- *Factors Impacting the Products and/or Services:*

  The Child Support Supplement is impacted by the limitations of the allocation. To provide a payment in the full amount of the child support collected would require an appropriation of approximately $10.8 million. The current appropriation of $7.8 million requires payments to be prorated.

- *Anticipated Changes to the Products and/or Services*

  None

- *Listing of Products and/or Services*

  o Economic assistance to low income families/individuals or nutrition, child care, health care eligibility, and financial assistance to low income families/individuals

Finance

- *Financial Overview*

  Funding for the Child Support Supplement is provided by the federal TANF Block Grant.

- *Financial Breakdown*

	Fiscal Year 2009		Fiscal Year 2010	
	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund	General Fund	Nongeneral Fund
Base Budget	$0	$7,800,000	$0	$7,800,000
Change To Base	$0	$0	$0	$0
Service Area Total	$0	$7,800,000	$0	$7,800,000

Service Area Objectives

- Provide TANF recipients a supplemental payment equal to the amount of the current support collected each month by the Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE)

  Objective Measures

  o Percent of qualified participants that receive a child support supplement payment

    Governor's Key:

    No

Measure Type:

Outcome

Measure Frequency:

Annual

Frequency Comment: % of eligible TANF recipients who receive a child support supplement

Measure Baseline: 98% of qualified participants received a child support supplement in SFY 2005

Measure Target: 100% of qualified participants will receive a child support supplement by the end of SFY 2009

Data Source and Calculation: The data source is VDSS internal information systems. Calculation – Number of payments issued (numerator) over the total number that should have been issued, accounting for exceptions and cases where the payment would have been $0.00.